## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of	)	
OKANO et al.		
Application Number: To Be Assigned	)	
Filed: Concurrently Herewith	)	
For: CENTRIFUGAL SEPARATOR AND SAMPLE  PREPARATION DEVICE USING THE SEPARATOR	) )	

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

## REQUEST FOR PRIORITY UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119 AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Sir:

In the matter of the above-captioned application for a United States patent, notice is hereby given that the Applicant claims the priority date of June 23, 1999, the filing date of the national entry of PCT/JP99/03341.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher Registration Number 24,344

REED SMITH HAZEL & THOMAS LLP

3110 Fairview Park Drive Suite 1400 Falls Church, Virginia 22042 (703) 641-4200 December 20, 2001